



FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D C 20463

MAR 17 2005

Mr. Willard Lasseter
Treasurer
Chambliss for Senate Committee
P.O. Box 12469
Atlanta, GA 30355

RE: MUR 5643

Dear Mr. Lasseter:

On March 10, 2005, the Federal Election Commission entered into a conciliation agreement with Carter's, Inc., Frederick Rowan, Michael Casey, Charles Whetzel, and David Brown regarding \$8,000 in improper federal political contributions. These contributions were made to Chambliss for Senate Committee in connection with a March 27, 2002 fundraising event. *See Attachment 1.*

Chambliss for Senate Committee and you, in your official capacity as treasurer, were not respondents in this matter. The Commission reminds you, however, that the treasurer of a political committee is responsible for examining all contributions received by the political committee for evidence of legality. 11 C.F.R. § 103.3(b). Contributions that present genuine questions as to whether they were made by legal sources may be deposited into a campaign depository or returned to the contributor. If any such contribution is deposited, the treasurer shall make his or her best efforts to determine the legality of the contribution. 11 C.F.R. § 103.3(b)(1). If the treasurer determines that at the time a contribution was received and deposited, it did not appear to be illegal, but later discovers that it is illegal based on new evidence not available to the political committee at the time of receipt and deposit, the treasurer shall refund or disgorge the contribution within thirty days of the date on which the illegality was discovered. 11 C.F.R. § 103.3(b)(2). *See AO 1996-5.*

Under the terms of the attached Conciliation Agreement, Respondents have waived their right to refunds of these contributions. *See Attachment 1 at Paragraph VI.* Accordingly, the \$8,000 in contributions should be disgorged to the U.S. Treasury. The check, made payable to the U.S. Treasury, should reference MUR 5643 and be sent to the following address:

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Federal Election Commission
Office of General Counsel
999 E Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20463
Attn: Audra L. Wassom

If you have any questions, please contact me at (202) 694-1650.

Sincerely,



Audra L. Wassom
Attorney

cc (w/o attachment): David O. Stewart, Esq. – Counsel to Carter’s, Inc.
R. Mathew Martin, Esq. – Counsel to Messrs. Rowan, Casey, Whetzel and Brown

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